



**So This  
Is Pennant . . .**

**1947**



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**SO THIS IS PENNANT . . . .**

**1947**



**Published By The Women's Association Of  
The Pennant United Church**

**Pennant, Saskatchewan**

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## **DEDICATION**

This booklet is respectively dedicated to the early pioneers who despite trials and hardships had sufficient faith in the community to give them strength and courage to make progressive improvements and progress to their homes, their village and their countryside.

It is likewise dedicated to the gallant men and women from the district who enlisted in the cause of freedom and took up arms against Nazi and Facist domination in the wars of 1914—1918 and 1939—1945.

# Village Of Pennant

**MAYOR**

J. C. Hughes

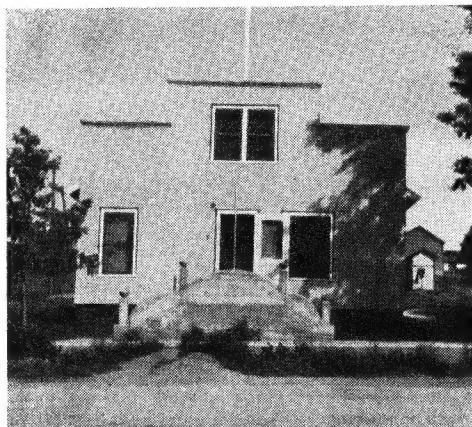
**SEC.-TREAS.**

Helen Fett

**COUNCILLORS**

R. J. Graham

J. D. Pirie



THE VILLAGE OFFICE



## "THE FRIENDLY VILLAGE"



Call Again ——

—————Thank You!

# FOREWARD

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**I**N PRESENTING this booklet, the members of the Women's Association do so with a view of acquainting folk with the Village of Pennant and its surrounding districts.

In the booklet is preserved memories and happy recollections of Pennant during the early days and in the days since. Active organizations in the district and the part played by the district during the wars of 1914-18 and 1939-45 are reviewed and photographs of the town and country are presented to show the progress made since the early pioneers first opened up the district.

Pennant, The Friendly Village, is located on Highway 32, thirty-seven miles Northwest of Swift Current. It is served by the Canadian Pacific Railway and Telegraphs on the Swift Current—Empress, Alberta branch and also has a branch line running weekly out to Verlo, Hazlet, Roseray and Fosterton. The Saskatchewan Power Commission and the Saskatchewan Government Telephones adequately serve residents with two modern conveniences.

Pennant is an active and progressive village with a population of 300 and is well served by two General Stores, three Garages a Hotel and Restaurant, Pool Room and Barber Shop, four Elevators, two Oil Companies, The Pennant Credit Union Association, The Pennant Co-Operative Association, The Beaver Lumber Company Limited and a Blacksmith Shop.

Pennant is located in the centre of the Rural Municipality of Riverside, No. 168, with the result that the Municipal office is located in the village. The Municipality also has considerable other property holdings within the town to house their Road

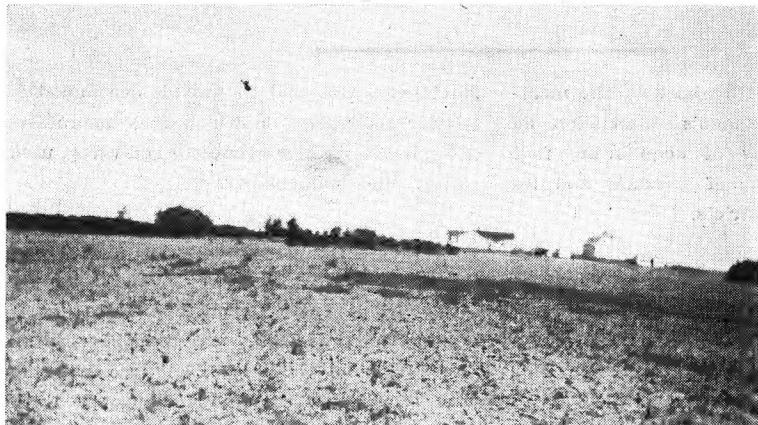
Machinery, Etc. and to provide accommodation for their plant in which they manufacture the necessary concrete culverts used within the Municipality.

Pennant is a clean attractive village and takes pride in itself as is evidenced by the fact that the Village has a mile and a quarter of cement sidewalks and has gravelled all the streets in the village. A tree planting program is in force and today over three hundred trees add to its beauty. A small park is in stages of development which should further attract attention. The town boasts of a good water supply with ample quantity to serve the needs for some time to come. The C.P.R. also has a water supply in town. While grain farming is the main source of revenue to the farmers in the adjoining districts. Cattle and sheep ranching plays an important part.

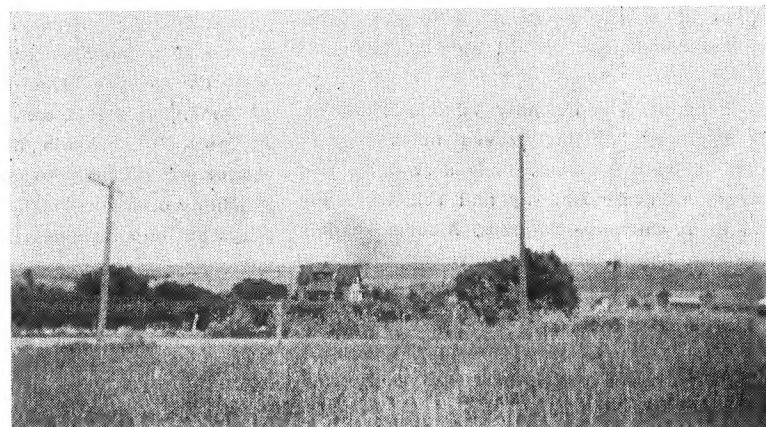
Pennant has probably the lowest mill rate of any other village of its size in the Province. The total rate is 32.2 mills and is made up as follows: Municipal 12 mills, School 16 mills, Public Revenue 2.2 mills and Health Region 2 mills. This low rate speaks well for those in charge of administration when the fact that the town continues to improve its facilities, walks and streets, etc. is considered.

The village was incorporated in 1912 and the first council minutes reveal that the council met for the first time on August 16, 1912 with B.M. Mill as Overseer, F.E. Mullin and A.G. Ramsden as councillors. According to the minutes the first moves made by the council were to engage N.F. Jones as secretary-treasurer at a salary of \$10.00 per month and purchase the necessary lumber for sidewalks.

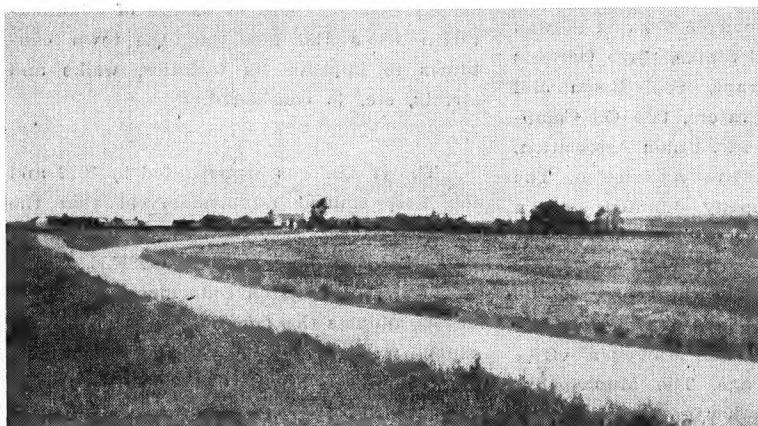
## FARM HOMES IN THE COMMUNITY



Norman  
Haw's



Gordon  
Purvis'



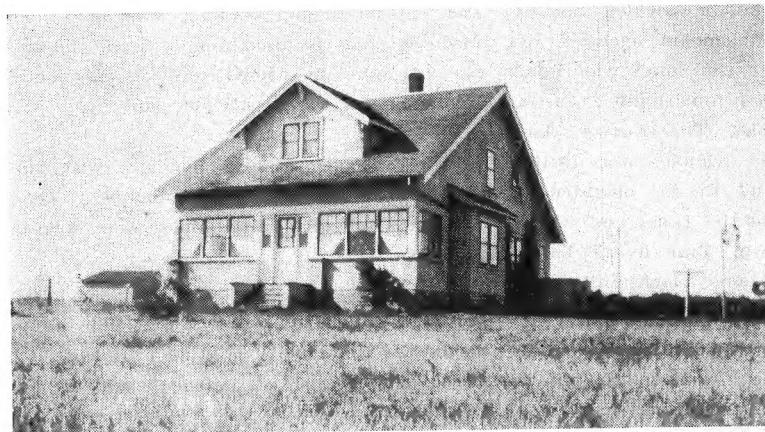
D. B.  
Gaunt's  
on  
Highway 32



T. J.  
Graham's



J.  
Dowdeswell's



L. J.  
Yost's  
Village  
Residence

**1906 - 1947**

# **Early Pioneers Recall Boom Days Of 1906 And On**

## **. . . . Ohioville First Settlement**



IRST SETTLED in 1906 the community has made great strides since that time. In 1911 the steel was laid to Pennant and in the following year 1912 the Canadian Pacific Depot was built. From this time on the village grew and in the same year Gauset and Hodgson started a general store. This store is still a landmark in the village and at the present time houses the Liquor store. It was originally built in 1910 for a store one mile north of town. The second store in town was opened also in 1912 when Johnson and Mullins started business. B.M. Hill built and operated a Hardware store which he still operates. T. Carney built a Restaurant next door which to-day is occupied by the Lorne Croteau General store. It was also at this time that Mr. Perigo built a building which housed the Massey-Harris implements operated by Lett and Jones; that the hotel was built by Geo. Brennan; that four lumber yards, namely the Revelstoke, The Beaver, The Manufactures and the Kimble, were being operated. Johnson and Reedie operated a Pool Room adjacent to the Hotel and which has since burnt down. Two livery barns were kept busy and one blacksmith shop attending to the needs of the farmers.

The first settlement was in the Ohioville district, which in the early days was known as Keithville Post Office. This settle-

ment was settled by the B. Emerick, A Miller, Ullerys' and Stutman's families. Another settlement was started north of Keithville by the Zeller families.

Early Pioneers and homesteaders included the Valentine Brothers, Mrs. M. Reid and family, Teddy Moase, D. McCorquodale, Arthur Joys, A.E. Bye, Ed Qualle, Geo. Hart, T.J. Williams, Wallace Brothers, Gordon Purvis, Dan Gaunt, Dave Meikle, Bill Martin, Abe Smith, B.M. Hill, Dave Powers, Jim Baker, W.T. Smith, J. Yost, R. Wright, Titimore and the Dowdeswell Brothers.

Talking to some of these early pioneers we find that Ohioville was the main social centre of the community and that social evenings and dances provided amusement and entertainment. Walking was the chief mode of transportation and to walk a number of miles to attend one of the social functions was a weekly pleasure.

1915 marked quite a new era with the advent of the first automobiles. Geo. Brennan and Lett and Jones were agents in those days.

1923 the early pioneers and old timers held their first "Get-to-Gether" meeting and these are now a yearly feature among the pioneers who gather to reminisce and talk over the "good old days."

*Pennant School,*  
**No. 3182**



The first school in Pennant was a two roomed school built in 1913. In 1925 it was enlarged to four rooms, however in 1927 it burned to the ground. The present modern four roomed school was built in 1928.

Prinicipal: Mr. Pengelly.



### **Pennant United Church**

Built in 1912 by the Presbyterian congregation it later joined the Union. An addition and full basement were added in 1928. Rev. Hackney, present minister.



### **United Church Choir**

**Mr. H. Vincent, Leader.**

# *Through Co-operation*

## Various Organizations Work For Mutual Benefit Of All



WITHIN THE VILLAGE and the surrounding district are a number of active community organizations who have the good welfare of the district in their programs and who continually strive and work together for the benefit of the community and its residents.

These organizations are as follows:

Pennant Branch, Canadian Legion—President D.B. (Bunty) Gaunt, Secretary, Ed Housego.

Farm Women's Club—President, Mrs. S. Orr.

United Church Ladies Aid—President Mrs. D. Gaunt.

Anglican Church Ladies' Aid—Mrs. D. Gaunt.

Homecraft Club—Mrs. Hart.

Order of the Eastern Star—Matron Mrs. N Haw.

Mount Hermon Lodge, A.F. and A.M. — Worshipful Master, T.H. Bowditch.

Board of Trade—President Gordon Graham. Secretary, R.T. Pengelly.

C.G.I.T., Group led by Mrs. Hay and Mrs. Mohr.

Explorers led by W. Essiu

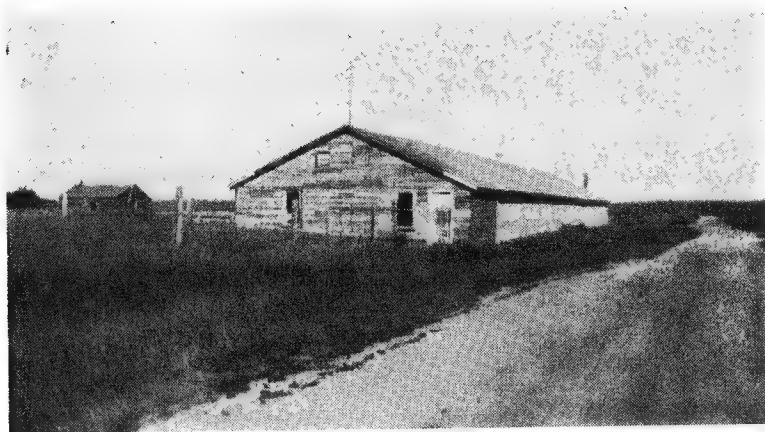
The Community has the services of two churches, The Pennant Anglican Church and the Pennant United Church. The Anglican Field is covered by the Rev. Rhodes of the Cabri Parish and services are held regularly, while Rev. Hackney is resident minister for the United Church.

It is interesting to note that the first Church was built in 1912 and had Rev Crookston as the minister who besides his regular work found time to build the pews and the pulpit for the new church and also to finish the woodwork within the church. In 1925 the Church was in need of electrical wiring and so the minister at that time, Rev. W. Miller went ahead and in his spare time did the electrical wiring in the church.



A view of the Sports' Grounds and part of the large crowd which gathered for the 1947 sports.

—★—★—★—★—



Curling Rink (Not Finished)

*Sports Day . . . event of the year*

# Sports And The Community



ENNANT AND COMMUNITY has built up through the years an active Sports' Ass'n and has provided Sports Grounds where each year a big day is staged and attended by the community as a whole and by hundreds of visitors from neighboring towns and districts. The Sports Grounds consist of thirty-three acres of ground which the village purchased for this purpose in 1926. Since this time a race track, grandstand, barns, booths and other necessary buildings have been provided to assure accommodation and comfort on Sports Day.



The Sports are now managed by the Board of Trade which has only recently been founded and now has a membership of fifty active persons. It is a member of the Mid-West Racing Circuit and was one of the towns instrumental in getting such a circuit organized.

Other recreation in the village includes a Curling Rink which provides amusement

for a large number during the winter season.

Show are also held weekly in the community hall and attract a large number to them and provides entertainment for all.



Two active Ball Clubs, the Senior and Junior Baseball Clubs, provide entertainment and ball games during the ball season. Besides exhibition games at home they compete in many Sports Days each year held in neighboring towns and districts. Sports, along with school activities also play an important part in the Student's year at school and many enjoyable hours are spent in competing against one another or in body against neighboring schools.

# PENNANT AND THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM

**T**HE COMMUNITY is rightfully proud of the large part it has played in the cause of freedom and justice in the world. Although it is relatively small in size, whenever the need has arisen sons and daughters of Pennant and Community have volunteered in large numbers to help maintain this freedom and to fight for what is right. During the first World War of 1914-18 when the community was just beginning fifty six of its members set aside the task of the community so that they could join up and fight against German domination and aggression. Of this gallant number, eight sacrificed their lives so that others could live in freedom. Then again in 1939-45 when the world was thrown in chaos and threatened by the Nazi and Facist countries Pennant lads and gals joined with hundreds of others across the country and donned the uniforms of Canada's three services. All told one hundred and six enlisted and of this number, four namely Bob Medford, Allan Pirie, Chester Bell and Gordon Doyle, gave their lives in freedom's cause. During both these wars the enlisted were a credit to the village and district. Mentioned



in despatches for gallantry were "Bunty" Gaunt, Orville Camphaug and Cliff Nevins

And during the time that the young people were off to war those at home were also contributing toward the cause. The organizations were active doing wartime work and contributing to the welfare of the enlisted men and women. Such worthy organizations as The Red Cross were being whole heartedly supported and the various War Savings Campaigns and Victory Loans were going "over the Top" as those at home fought to see that the boys and girls in the front lines had the best of equipment and comforts.

The Pennant Reception Committee was set up to welcome back the veterans and to look after their interests. This Committee proved a valuable asset to the community and the veterans and formed a link which strengthened the bonds between home and the veterans. Since the war has ended it has been instrumental in getting veterans settled back in the community and re-established in civilian life again.



*We Thank Almighty God For The  
Victory And For Their Safe Return.*

The  
C. P. R.  
Depot



R.M. of  
Riverside  
Office

The  
Post  
Office



# *A brief historical review of*

# *The Memorial Hall*

## *at Pennant*

**S**T. WAS in the year 1929 that residents of the Village and surrounding community started a movement to determine the most suitable Memorial that could be erected as a fitting tribute to the heroes of the first Great War, dating from 1914 to 1918. It was then that the late Mr. A.E. Bye, a pioneer farmer and public spirited citizen of our district called a meeting where the whole question was fully discussed and it was decided that a Memorial Hall would best serve the community and the purpose intended. At that meeting a Committee of five were elected, consisting of the late Mr. A.E. Bye, Chairman; D.B. Gaunt, T.J. Graham, J.C. Hughes and Mrs. J. Blair. This committee proceeded to form an organization to be known as Pennant Memorial Hall and had same registered under the Benevolent Societies Act, of the Province of Saskatchewan.

A suitable site was secured on lots 15, 16 in Block 4, which was purchased from E.L. Johnson for the sum of \$150.00, where the work started excavating a full size basement 36x90 and 9 feet deep. A ten inch concrete wall was put in with reinforcement throughout on which was placed a floor of shiplap covering. a full size basement floor of cement with provision made for a large water cistern below the level of the floor.

All this work was finished in the year 1929, mostly all by volunteer labor from the district, for which the Hall Board feel deeply grateful, and for their splendid spirit of co-operation in this worthy work by the community. The material in lumber and cement was paid for by donations subscribed in the district.

The year 1930 was the first of a period of depression never before experienced in the history of the west. Crop failures, caused

by drought and soil drifting, and a cycle of low prices continued for ten years, up to 1939. In view of these conditions our plans for completing the Hall had to be temporarily abandoned, awaiting a change in conditions generally. It was during this period that the Farm Women's Club of the district provided a much needed public service, in addition to their generous financial contribution to the building thus far, now decided to assist in operating same as a place to meet temporarily. This was made possible by erecting a low roof on approximately sixty feet of basement which helped to protect the building, also covering the cement floor with edge grain flooring. Electric lights were installed, a Ladies Rest Room added and seating accomodation. This operated for a few years and served a very useful purpose, but due to operating at a very low cost with high up keep, together with difficulty in heating in the winter months it was finally abandoned. At that time all books and records, certificate of Title etc. were stored in the Municipal vault for safe keeping. While there, due to an unfortunate accident these were all destroyed by water.

Nothing further was attempted for some years. It was in the fall of 1944 that T.J. Graham appeared before the Reception Committee to urge that the Memorial Hall be completed if at all possible. This Reception Committee was appointed to welcome home our men and women after having served in a second World War in the short period of thirty two years. Following consideration by the Committee, Mr. Norman Haw and T.J. Graham were asked to make a complete canvass of the Village and surrounding district in an effort to secure funds for the completion of our Hall. After a thorough canvass had been completed a meeting was called and the report given by the parties in charge of the canvass showed a sum ex-

ceeding \$4,000.00 had been subscribed. It was then up to the meeting as to what steps should be taken.

After a careful discussion it was decided to go ahead with the building, or completing of the Hall. A new Hall Board was elected in the persons of T.J. Graham, Norman Haw, D.B. Gaunt, T.E. Reid and J.C. Hughes. An advisory Board was also elected: Mrs. Carrie McGowan, President of the Farm Women's Club; H.E. Garrett, W.J. Godwin, Frank Olson, H.E. Carlson. This Committee at its first meeting, elected T.J. Graham as Chairman and J.C. Hughes as Secretary-Treasurer.

Owing to difficulty in securing material nothing further was done by the Hall Board before the fall of 1945 when an opportunity offered to purchase wheat storage bins from the Pioneer and Western Grain Companies. Two bins were purchased from the Pioneer and one from the Western Grain Company. These were taken down, nails removed and hauled to the site of the Hall. This purchase provided the Hall Board with a supply of dimensions and shiplap amounting to approximately fifty thousand feet of good seasoned lumber at a cost of about thirty dollars per thousand feet.

In the summer of 1946 a Contract was entered into with the Western Construction Company of Swift Current to complete the Hall from ground level up, with an understanding that E.L. Johnson be in charge of the work. Early in our construction work we learned that in order to secure material we would be required to purchase where this material could be found. The Hall Board adopted this principle as a policy, which had the effect that building material was secured from the Boundary of Manitoba on the East, to Leader on the West and Neville on the South. By perseverance and persistent planning the Hall was completed, less Hardwood flooring and cover the body of the Hall with Ten-test and final finishing which enabled the Hall Board to announce a Grand Opening Ceremony on October 11, 1946.

This Opening Ceremony attracted a crowd of over eight hundred people from all over south-western Saskatchewan. To add to the success of the occasion the Farm Women's Club again very kindly arranged for a fowl supper and turned over the total proceeds of \$219.82 to the building fund for

which the Hall Board feel deeply grateful. The Board was in charge of the program and dance that followed, J.C. Hughes acting as Chairman. Major McKay was the guest speaker of the evening. On behalf of the Saskatchewan Government he extended high praise and congratulations to our whole community effort in providing such a splendid Hall, classing it with the finest equipped in South Western Saskatchewan. This opening ceremony cleared a sum of \$396.50. This was a day to be remembered in Pennant History, in addition to adding a total of \$616.32 to our building fund.

On the occasion of our Bonspiel the Ladies Aid, of which Mrs. D.B. Gaunt is President, very kindly arranged to serve lunch in the Rink for the convenience of the Curlers and the total proceeds, less a small expense was turned over to the building fund of our Hall, in the amount of \$184.20, for which the Hall Board wish to express sincere thanks.

This Hall has a sixteen foot ceiling, a double flue from the basement floor - this chimney is lined with tile tubing or pipe and is so situated as to run through the ticket office and projection room which leaves the chimney invisible from the inside hall. Our Hall is heated with an Automatic Oil Furnace and has air conditioning system. Two ventilators are so arranged so as to work in harmony with this system. There is complete fluorescent electric lighting equipment, a full compliment of good seating together with a first class piano. The outside is covered with Insul Brick which makes a permanent covering and adds to the appearance of the building.

In the basement is a veterans room and a room is being planned for the various woman's clubs of the community. Plans are also in the making for a recreation room when finances permit.

Our projection room is fully equipped with two moving picture machines, a first class stage curtain, also a loud speaker and Public Address system. A moving picture show is held every Friday and Saturday evening. For a time Saturday afternoon shows will be held for the convenience of country shoppers. Considering road conditions and severe winter these shows are well attended which proves this hall is filling well attended which proves this hall is filling whole community life.



PENNANT MEMORIAL HALL

Recreation Centre built by the Community  
in honor of  
Our Boys and Girls  
who have done so much for us.



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THE LATE MR. A. E. BYE

DIRECTORS:

T.J. GRAHAM, J.C. HUGHES, T.E. REID, D.B. GAUNT, N. HAW

ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

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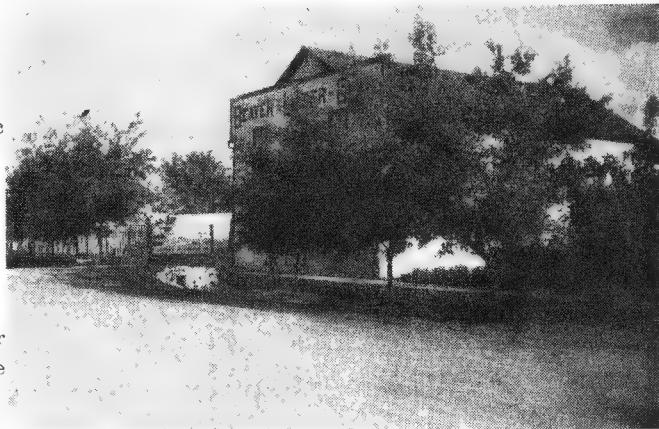
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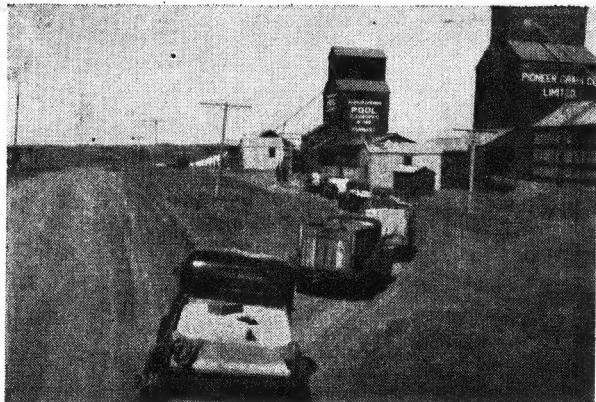
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Mrs. Mrs. Valentine



P

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"Follow Your  
Neighbor To  
The Pool"

\* • \*

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